



Milwaukee Children's Choir

Building Noteworthy Character

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Cantabile News

Hello, Cantabile Families!

Three more rehearsals until our November 5 dress rehearsal! Students should continue to practice at home with their CDs – *Autumn Vesper* and *Good Cheer* should be fully memorized for next week's rehearsals. *Bashana Haba'ah* and *Manx Lullaby* will need to be memorized by our October 25-27th rehearsals. Overall our pieces are coming along nicely, but there are a few areas that need some outside practice by our singers (see below.) Students should mark all of these spots in their music, if they haven't already done so in rehearsal. Encourage your singer to be responsible for his/her own learning and performance!

Cantabile singers had the opportunity to audition for "The Nutcracker" chorus this week in rehearsals. If your singer was accepted, please fill out the availability sheet they received and return it to your rehearsal assistant as soon as possible (no later than November 5). Some students were asked to practice another week on certain areas. Those singers are welcome to re-audition next week. Since we're singing with a professional organization (Milwaukee Ballet), we need to have high standards for the audition. We may have some singers who just aren't ready to sing with the Ballet yet this year, and that's ok!

Looking ahead to our next few weeks, I'd like to draw your attention to our Cantabile calendar (see below). Next week, the week of Oct. 17th, we have regular rehearsals at all sites.

During the week of Oct. 31st we have regular rehearsals, then we will have our dress rehearsal for the concert on Saturday, Nov. 5th.

Mandatory Dress Rehearsal, Saturday, Nov. 5, Hales Corners Lutheran Church, 12300 West Jaynesville Rd., Hales Corners, WI.

9:00 a.m.- Cantabile singer call time

10:30 a.m. – Cantabile singer dismissal

9:45-10:30 a.m.- Parent Meeting at Hales Corners Lutheran Church, at least one parent should attend.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have. Have a great week!

Sincerely,
Emily Fazio
Cantabile Coordinator
efazio@milwaukeechildrenschoir.org
(608) 386-7908

Things to mark in your music and practice this week:

<i>Autumn Vesper</i>	
Both parts:	
•	Breathe after "fell" on the first page
•	No breath after "smiles" (ever!)
•	Bih-low, bih-hold, dih-vine (instead of bee-hold, bee-low, and dee-vine)
•	Long, tall vowels, especially on words like "down" and "frown"
•	Cantabile West Part 1 singers: Make sure the second note of "down" on the last page is low enough! Eek!

<i>Manx Lullaby (unison)</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hu - sh/thee: Don't close to the "sh" too early • No breath after "dove" • Please don't slide between notes for the second "oh hush" 	
<i>Bashana Haba'ah</i>	
Part 1	Part 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breathe after "peset" on the top of pg. 4 and "feset" in the second line – no place else! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breathe only after "haba'ah" at the top of pg. 4 and at the end of the second line – four measure phrases.
<i>Good Cheer</i>	
Both parts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crisp diction! Can we clearly understand your words? • It's a happy song! Smile!!! ☺ 	
Part 1 only: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first measure at the bottom of pg. 4 is different than the beginning. Be sure you're getting all the way up there! (The solfège for those first few notes is "so la so" as opposed to "mi so so" from the first page.) 	

Thank you!

MCC Singers for Milwaukee Ballet's "The Nutcracker"

Cantabile singers are invited to audition to sing in the ballet "The Nutcracker" with singers from Jubilate and Youth Chorale. Auditions are being held next Tuesday (Cantabile Central and East), Wednesday (West), and Thursday (North) after rehearsals. Auditions will be finished no later than 30 minutes after our regular rehearsal ends. Students will sing in a group of 4-6 and are expected to sing their part confidently and in tune. Since we're singing with a professional organization, we will have high standards for the audition! Students who struggle at the audition are invited to practice for another week and re-audition the following week (the week of Oct. 18).

There are 18 performances and we will need at least 20 singers and 2 parent volunteers for each performance. The ballet is at the Marcus Center for Performing Arts. We sing at the end of the first act. **Singers report at curtain time and are dismissed at intermission, one hour later** (with the exception of the Fri, Dec. 9th Dress Rehearsal – pickup will be 6:30 pm). We have gone through the music during Cantabile rehearsals, but further individual practice will be necessary. **The music must be memorized.** We perform in the dark!

Dress for this event is **ALL BLACK**—including shoes—no noticeable jewelry. We perform from the orchestra pit as part of the instrumental ensemble. There are no bows, in fact no one really sees us. The dancers are the stars. Many of our singers who have performed this event have called it the most memorable of the season. It's pretty cool! Please contact me or your child's director with any questions you have about the audition and/or performances.

Cantabile Rehearsal Sites

Cantabile Central	Tuesdays	2:45-4:15 PM	Milwaukee Youth Arts Center (MYAC)
Cantabile East	Tuesdays	5:30-7:00 PM	Milwaukee Youth Arts Center (MYAC)
Cantabile West	Wednesdays	6:00-7:30 PM	Mt Carmel Lutheran (Tosa)
Cantabile North	Thursdays	5:30-7:00 PM	Mequon United Methodist

Upcoming Rehearsal Schedule:

October

Week of 10 th -	Regular Rehearsals (<i>Nutcracker</i> auditions after each rehearsal)
Week of 17 th -	Regular Rehearsals (<i>Nutcracker</i> auditions after each rehearsal)
Week of 24 th -	NO Regular Rehearsals this week. Instead we will have a COMBINED rehearsal on Tuesday, Oct. 25 th (see below)
25 th	(Tuesday) COMBINED Cantabile Rehearsal, 5:30-7:00 p.m., MYAC
Week of 31 st -	Regular Rehearsals

November

5 th -	(Saturday) MCC's mandatory dress rehearsal at Hales Corners Lutheran Church, 12300 West Jaynesville Rd., Hales Corners, WI. Cantabile 9:00-10:30, parent meeting 9:45-10:30
Week of 7 th -	Regular Rehearsals

Week of 14th - Regular Rehearsals
19th- (Saturday) MCC Autumn Concert "A Stroll Through the Countryside." 1:00 Concert, 12:00 p.m. singer call time, Hales
Corners Lutheran Church
Week of 21st - No Regular Rehearsals this week-- Happy Thanksgiving!
Week of 28-Dec. 2- Regular Rehearsals

Office News

Share your time and talent and create a holiday tree or wreath for an auction to benefit Milwaukee Children's Choir! Each year, MCC hosts a silent auction at its first big concert of the season to help support MCC programming. Well, it's MCC holiday auction time and we are again offering miniature trees and holiday wreaths for silent auction. In this fundraiser, MCC provides a miniature tree/wreath, you supply the imagination, talent and decorations. Then we auction off the decorated trees/wreaths at our November 19th concert, *A Stroll Through the Countryside* and raise money for MCC. Undecorated trees and wreaths can be picked up during rehearsals on Tuesday, October 18th at the Milwaukee Youth Arts Center. If your child rehearses at either our Mequon or Mt. Carmel (west) site, please contact Mary to reserve your bare tree or wreath. This holiday auction has been a great success for MCC in past years, and with your help it can be an even greater success in 2011! Last year our undecorated trees and wreaths went fast, so reserve your tree or wreath now by sending Mary Murphy, Development and Finance Manager, an email. Last year we also had folks donating baskets filled with goodies for auction. If you prefer to donate a holiday gift basket, that is great. Please contact Mary Murphy at mmurphy@milwaukeechildrenschoir.org or 414-221-7040. And be prepared to bid on a tree or wreath at the concert—it's for a great cause!

Coming Next Week: Information on our second annual rehearsal site auction gift basket competition. We have a new tradition at MCC (only 1 year old) where the families at each choir rehearsal site compete to put together the best gift basket to offer for auction at our November concert. Beginning next week, each site's rehearsal assistant will have an empty basket at their check-in table ready to collect themed items from the site's members. We will unveil your site's basket theme next week so stay tuned! Have a basket theme suggestion for your site? Reply to this eNews email message and share your thoughts!

MCC Season Tickets Available Now! Orders due no later than October 28.

Find the order form at the end of this newsletter.

Why should you buy season tickets?

- *Guarantee your seat before shows sell out!*
- *Get the best seats in the house.*
- *Buy tickets now and be done with it - so convenient!*
- *Get a 15% discount!*
- *Add on tickets for friends and family at a reduced price and...*
- *Support the singers of MCC!*

Reporting Attendance: In order to be excused, your MCC Rehearsal Assistant must be notified via the absence button on the Members Only page of the MCC website (www.milwaukeechildrenschoir.org). Families without internet access may phone the MCC office at 414-221-7040 to report their child's absence. Failure to notify the Rehearsal Assistant of an absence will cause the absence to be unexcused.

Have a terrific weekend!